AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims is a complete listing of the pending claims, and supersedes all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for finding documents which relate to a portion of a temporal document, comprising:

(a) in response to a signal of interest at a particular time during the temporal document, identifying a ~~portion~~ temporal range of the temporal document for which related documents are to be found;

(b) selecting text associated with the ~~portion~~ temporal range of the temporal document ~~identified~~;

(c) finding the related documents by use of information retrieval techniques as applied to the selected text,

wherein the related documents are selected from a collection of documents according to scores associated with the documents, said scores for each document based on a summation of term scores for at least a subset of the terms of the selected text, the term score of a term ~~proportional to an inverted document frequency of the term~~ is weighted according to a temporal position of the term within the temporal range.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the temporal document is video or audio material.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the video material is stored on a video server.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the selected text is determined by application of speech recognition techniques to the audio component of the ~~portion~~ temporal range of the temporal document ~~identified~~.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the selected text is the closed-captioned text associated with the ~~portion~~ temporal range of the temporal document ~~identified~~.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the temporal document includes text.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the document text appearing to the user varies with time and the selected text is ~~that portion~~ included within the temporal range of the temporal document ~~identified~~.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the document text includes news bulletins, weather, sports scores or stock transaction or pricing information.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the related documents are accessed through ~~the Internet~~ a network.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, further including selecting the related documents from among a collection of documents which may be accessed through the ~~Internet~~ network, by utilizing databases comprising information about the collection.

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, wherein a predetermined number of documents~~, 1000,~~ are selected.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein evaluating documents in the collection includes accessing compressed document surrogates.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein related documents are selected from the collection by a server which is distinct from the server which receives the signal of interest.

14. (Currently amended) A device for finding documents which relate to a portion of a temporal document, comprising:

(a) means for identifying a ~~portion~~ temporal range of the temporal document for which related documents are to be found, in response to a signal of interest at a particular time during the temporal document;

(b) means for selecting text associated with the ~~portion~~ temporal range of the temporal document ~~identified~~;

(c) means for finding the related documents by use of information retrieval techniques as applied to the selected text,

wherein the related documents are selected from a collection of documents according to scores associated with the documents, said scores for each document based on a summation of term scores for at least a subset of the terms of the selected text, the term score of a term ~~proportional to an inverted document frequency of the term~~ is weighted according to a temporal position of the term within the temporal range.

15. (Original) The device of claim 14, wherein the temporal document is video or audio material.

16. (Original) The device of claim 15, wherein the video material is stored on a video server.

17. (Currently amended) The device of claim 15, wherein the selected text is determined by application of speech recognition techniques to the audio component of the ~~portion~~ temporal range of the temporal document ~~identified~~.

18. (Currently amended) The device of claim 15, wherein the selected text is the closed-captioned text associated with the ~~portion~~ temporal range of the temporal document ~~identified~~.

19. (Original) The device of claim 14, wherein the temporal document includes text.

20. (Currently amended) The device of claim 19, wherein the document text appearing to the user varies with time and the selected text is ~~that portion~~ included within the temporal range of the temporal document ~~identified~~.

21. (Original) The device of claim 20, wherein the document text includes news bulletins, weather, sports scores or stock transaction or pricing information.

22. (Currently amended) The device of claim 15, wherein the related documents are accessed through ~~the Internet~~ a network.

23. (Currently amended) The device of claim 22, further including means for selecting the related documents from among a collection of documents which may be accessed through the ~~Internet~~ network, by utilizing databases comprising information about the collection.

24. (Currently amended) The device of claim 23, wherein a predetermined number of documents~~, 1000,~~ are selected.

25. (Original) The device of claim 23, wherein evaluating documents in the collection includes accessing compressed document surrogates.

26. (Original) The device of claim 23, wherein related documents are selected from the collection by a server which is distinct from the server which receives the signal of interest.

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~term score of a term is additionally proportional to a term weight~~ temporal range precedes the particular time of the signal of interest.

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~27~~ 1, wherein ~~the term score of a term is additionally proportional to a term frequency~~ each temporal position within the temporal range is weighted equally.

29. (Currently amended) The ~~system~~ method of claim ~~14~~ 1, wherein ~~the term score of a term is additionally proportional to a term weight~~ the weight of each temporal position within the temporal range increases from a beginning point of the range to a second point of the range, is weighted equally from the second point of the range to a third point of the range, and decreases from the third point of the range to an end point of the range.

30. (Currently amended) The ~~system~~ method of claim ~~29~~ 1, wherein ~~the term score of a term is additionally proportional to a term frequency~~ each temporal position within the temporal range is weighted according to a discrete two stage exponential function.

31. (New) The device of claim 14, wherein the temporal range precedes the particular time of the signal of interest.

32. (New) The device of claim 14, wherein each temporal position within the temporal range is weighted equally.

32. (New) The device of claim 14, wherein the weight of each temporal position within the temporal range increases from a beginning point of the range to a second point of the range, is weighted equally from the second point of the range to a third point of the range, and decreases from the third point of the range to an end point of the range.

34. (New) The device of claim 14, wherein each temporal position within the temporal range is weighted according to a discrete two stage exponential function.